

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 96-12, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97)

WAC 173-22-030 Definitions. As used herein, the following words have the following meanings:

(1) "Associated wetlands" means those wetlands which are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by tidal waters or a lake or stream subject to the Shoreline Management Act;

(2) "Atypical situation" as used herein, refers to areas in which one or more parameters (vegetation, soil, and/or hydrology) have been sufficiently altered by recent human activities or natural events to preclude the presence of wetland indicators of the parameter. Recent refers to the period of time since legal jurisdiction of an applicable law or regulation took effect;

(3) "Duration (inundation/soil saturation)" means the length of time during which water stands at or above the soil surface (inundation), or during which the soil is saturated. As used herein, duration refers to a period during the growing season;

(4) "Flood plain" is synonymous with one hundred-year floodplain and means that land area susceptible to being inundated by stream derived waters with a one percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year. The limit of this area shall be based upon flood ordinance regulation maps or a reasonable method which meets the objectives of the act;

(5) "Floodway" (~~means those portions of the area of a river valley lying streamward from the outer limits of a watercourse upon which flood waters are carried during periods of flooding that occur with reasonable regularity, although not necessarily annually, said floodway being identified, under normal condition, by changes in surface soil conditions or changes in types or quality of vegetative ground cover condition. The floodway shall not include those lands that can reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by flood control devices maintained by or maintained under license from the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state. The limit of the floodway is that which has been established in flood regulation ordinance maps or by a reasonable method which meets the objectives of the act~~) has the meaning provided in RCW 90.58.030;

(6) "Growing season" means the portion of the year when soil temperatures at 19.7 inches below the soil surface are higher than biologic zero (5°C);

(7) "Hydrophytic vegetation" means the sum total of

macrophytic plant life growing in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content. When hydrophytic vegetation comprises a community where indicators of hydric soils and wetland hydrology also occur, the area has wetland vegetation;

(8) "Hydric soil" means soil that formed under conditions of saturation, flooding, or ponding long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part;

(9) "Lake" means a body of standing water in a depression of land or expanded part of a river, including reservoirs, of twenty acres or greater in total area. A lake is bounded by the ordinary high water mark or, where a stream enters a lake, the extension of the elevation of the lake's ordinary high water mark within the stream;

(10) "Long duration" means a period of inundation from a single event that ranges from seven days to one month.

(11) "Ordinary high water mark" on all lakes, streams, and tidal water is that mark that will be found by examining the bed and banks and ascertaining where the presence and action of waters are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark upon the soil a character distinct from that of the abutting upland, in respect to vegetation as that condition exists on June 1, 1971, as it may naturally change thereafter, or as it may change thereafter in accordance with permits issued by a local government or the department. The following criteria clarify this mark on tidal waters, lakes, and streams:

(a) Tidal waters.

(i) In high energy environments where the action of waves or currents is sufficient to prevent vegetation establishment below mean higher high tide, the ordinary high water mark is coincident with the line of vegetation. Where there is no vegetative cover for less than one hundred feet parallel to the shoreline, the ordinary high water mark is the average tidal elevation of the adjacent lines of vegetation. Where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, it is the elevation of mean higher high tide;

(ii) In low energy environments where the action of waves and currents is not sufficient to prevent vegetation establishment below mean higher high tide, the ordinary high water mark is coincident with the landward limit of salt tolerant vegetation. "Salt tolerant vegetation" means vegetation which is tolerant of interstitial soil salinities greater than or equal to 0.5 parts per thousand;

(b) Lakes. Where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, it shall be the line of mean high water;

(c) Streams. Where the ordinary high water mark cannot be found, it shall be the line of mean high water. For braided streams, the ordinary high water mark is found on the banks forming the outer limits of the depression within which the braiding occurs;

(12) "Prevalent vegetation" means the plant community or communities that occur in an area during a given period. The prevalent vegetation is characterized by the dominant macrophytic

species that comprise the plant community;

(13) "River delta" means those lands formed as an aggradational feature by stratified clay, silt, sand and gravel deposited at the mouths of streams where they enter a quieter body of water. The upstream extent of a river delta is that limit where it no longer forms distributary channels;

(14) "Shorelands" or "shoreland areas" means those lands extending landward for two hundred feet in all directions as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; floodways and contiguous floodplain areas landward two hundred feet from such floodways; and all wetlands and river deltas associated with the streams, lakes, and tidal waters which are subject to the provisions of this chapter; the same to be designated as to location by the department of ecology. Any county or city may determine that portion of a one-hundred-year-flood plain to be included in its master program as long as such portion includes, as a minimum, the floodway and the adjacent land extending landward two hundred feet therefrom;

(15) A "stream" is a naturally occurring body of periodic or continuously flowing water where:

(a) The mean annual flow is greater than twenty cubic feet per second; and

(b) The water is contained within a channel. A channel is an open conduit either naturally or artificially created. This definition does not include artificially created irrigation, return flow, or stockwatering channels;

(16) "Tidal water" includes marine and estuarine waters bounded by the ordinary high water mark. Where a stream enters the tidal water, the tidal water is bounded by the extension of the elevation of the marine ordinary high water mark within the stream;

(17) "Typically adapted" is a term that refers to a species being normally or commonly suited to a given set of environmental conditions, due to some feature of its morphology, physiology, or reproduction;

(18) "Very long duration" means a period of inundation from a single event that is greater than one month.

(19) "Wetlands" or "wetland areas" means areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas. Wetlands do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland sites, including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage ditches, grass-lined swales, canals, detention facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, farm ponds, and landscape amenities, or those wetlands created after July 1, 1990, that were unintentionally created as a result of the construction of a road, street, or highway. Wetlands may include those artificial wetlands intentionally created from nonwetland areas to mitigate the conversion of wetlands; and

(20) The definitions set forth in chapter 90.58 RCW shall also

apply as used herein.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.140(3) and [90.58].200. 97-04-076 (Order 96-12), § 173-22-030, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.58 RCW. 86-12-011 (Order 86-06), § 173-22-030, filed 5/23/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030 (2)(f), 90.58.120, and 90.58.200. 80-08-086 (Order DE 80-22), § 173-22-030, filed 7/2/80; Order DE 73-11, § 173-22-030, filed 7/20/73; Order DE 72-15, § 173-22-030, filed 6/30/72.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 96-12, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97)

WAC 173-22-040 Shoreland area designation criteria. The following criteria contain the standards for the department's designation of shoreland areas associated with shorelines of the state which are subject to the jurisdiction of chapter 90.58 RCW:

(1) Tidal waters. The shoreland area shall include:

(a) Those lands which extend landward two hundred feet as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; and

(b) Those wetlands which are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by the tidal water. This influence includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: Periodic tidal inundation; hydraulic continuity; formation by tidally influenced geohydraulic processes; or a surface connection through a culvert or tide gate;

(2) Lakes. The shoreland area shall include:

(a) Those lands which extend landward two hundred feet as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark; and

(b) Those wetlands which are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by the lake. This influence includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: Periodic inundation or hydraulic continuity;

(3) Streams. The shoreland area shall include the greater of:

(a) Those lands which extend landward two hundred feet as measured on a horizontal plane from the ordinary high water mark;

(b) Those floodplains which extend landward two hundred feet as measured on a horizontal plane from the floodway: Provided, That local government may, at its discretion, include all or a larger portion of the one hundred-year floodplain within the associated shorelands. Designation of this shoreland area shall be

in accordance with chapter ((173-19)) 173-26 WAC, the state master program. If the applicable master program does not designate the shoreland area for a stream, it shall be designated under the rules which applied at the time of adoption by the department;

(c) Those wetlands which are in proximity to and either influence or are influenced by the stream. This influence includes but is not limited to one or more of the following: Periodic inundation; location within a floodplain; or hydraulic continuity; and

(d) Those lands within a river delta floodplain except for those lands that can reasonably be expected to be protected from flood waters by flood control devices maintained by or maintained under license from the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.140(3) and [90.58].200. 97-04-076 (Order 96-12), § 173-22-040, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.58 RCW. 86-12-011 (Order 86-06), § 173-22-040, filed 5/23/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030, 90.58.120 and 90.58.200. 85-09-043 (Order DE 85-05), § 173-22-040, filed 4/15/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030 (2)(f), 90.58.120, and 90.58.200. 80-08-086 (Order DE 80-22), § 173-22-040, filed 7/2/80; Order DE 76-30, § 173-22-040, filed 7/27/76; Order DE 73-11, § 173-22-040, filed 7/20/73; Order DE 72-15, § 173-22-040, filed 6/30/72.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 86-06, filed 5/23/86)

WAC 173-22-050 Review and update of designations. ((The department shall review all the designations made herein at least once in every five-year period following the effective date of chapter 90.58 RCW or as frequently as is deemed advisable by the department, and prepare the necessary revisions to ensure that the designations conform to the policies of chapter 90.58 RCW and of chapter 173-22 WAC in the manner and form prescribed for adopting and amending rules and regulations in chapter 34.04 RCW (the Administrative Procedure Act)-)) Each local government master program shall include a map of shorelands constituting shorelines of the state within the jurisdiction of the master program that complies with the requirements of RCW 90.58.030 (2)(d). When such master program is approved by the department subsequent to the effective date of this provision, the list within the master program shall be the official list for that jurisdiction and shall

supercede the list contained herein.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.58 RCW. 86-12-011 (Order 86-06), § 173-22-050, filed 5/23/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030 (2)(f), 90.58.120, and 90.58.200. 80-08-086 (Order DE 80-22), § 173-22-050, filed 7/2/80; Order DE 73-11, § 173-22-050, filed 7/20/73; Order DE 72-15, § 173-22-050, filed 6/30/72.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 86-06, filed 5/23/86)

WAC 173-22-055 Conflicts between designations and criteria.

In the event that any of the wetland designations shown on the maps adopted in WAC 173-22-060 or a shoreline master program approved under WAC 173-20-044, conflict with the criteria set forth in this chapter the criteria shall control. The boundary of the designated wetland areas shall be governed by the criteria set forth in WAC 173-22-040 except that the local government must amend the local master program to reflect the new designation within three years of the discovery of the discrepancy.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.58 RCW. 86-12-011 (Order 86-06), § 173-22-055, filed 5/23/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030 (2)(f), 90.58.120, and 90.58.200. 80-08-086 (Order DE 80-22), § 173-22-055, filed 7/2/80; Order DE 73-11, § 173-22-055, filed 7/20/73.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 86-06, filed 5/23/86)

WAC 173-22-060 Shoreline designation maps until superceded.

Shoreline designation maps are those maps which have been prepared and adopted by the department in a manner consistent with chapter 34.04 RCW (the Administrative Procedure Act) that designate the location of shorelines of the state and their ((~~associated wetland~~)) shoreland areas. ((~~Wetland~~)) Shoreland area designations

are applied under the criteria contained in WAC 173-22-040. Due to the bulk of the maps designating the ((wetland)) shoreland areas, they are not included in the text of this chapter, but rather are incorporated herein as an appendix hereto, having full legal force and effect as if published herein. Copies of the appendix are available to the public at all reasonable times for inspection in the headquarters of the department of ecology in ((Olympia)) Lacey, the Washington state code reviser's office, the appropriate county auditor and city clerk. Copies of portions thereof, or of the complete set, will be available from the department at the expense of the party requesting the same. Volumes I, II, and III entitled *Shorelines under the Shoreline Management Act of 1971* (chapter 90.58 RCW, chapter 286, Laws of 1971 1st ex. sess.) were adopted by reference on June 30, 1972. These maps are in effect until superceded by an approved shoreline master program as described in WAC 173-22-050.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 90.58 RCW. 86-12-011 (Order 86-06), § 173-22-060, filed 5/23/86. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.030, 90.58.120 and 90.58.200. 85-14-001 (Order 85-15), § 173-22-060, filed 6/20/85; 85-09-043 (Order DE 85-05), § 173-22-060, filed 4/15/85. Statutory Authority: RCW 90.58.120, 90.58.200 and 90.58.030 (2)(f). 81-13-034 (Order DE 81-18), § 173-22-060, filed 6/15/81; Order DE 72-15, § 173-22-060, filed 6/30/72.]